

DETAILED ACTION
Reasons for Allowance

Claims 1-11,20-21 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: The present invention is directed to a video playback device comprising video storage means, thumbnail image generation means, thumbnail image storage means, display means, selection means, reduction means and playback means.

The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter: The independent claims 1, 11 and 20 are identifies the uniquely distinct feature for "reduction means for reducing the size of the video corresponding to the selected thumbnail image to the size of the thumbnail image; and playback means for playing the reduced-size video in a display position of the selected thumbnail image"

Akiyama et al., US 7,319,480 discloses a method for producing a motion video image file from a motion image sequence, includes the steps of providing a first target data rate for a first image frame of the motion image sequence; compressing the first image frame using the first target data rate, and storing the compressed first image frame in a motion video image file; providing a second target data rate for subsequent image frames of the motion video sequence, the second target data rate being lower than the first target data rate; and compressing the subsequent image frames of the motion image sequence using the second target data rate. The method further includes

the steps of storing the compressed subsequent image frames in the motion video image file; decompressing the compressed first image frame; and using the decompressed first image frame to provide a still image representative of the motion video image file.

Schaeffer et al., US 6,731,952 discloses the mobile telephone further includes a display for displaying the processed digital image signals; a second connector for interfacing with the first connector on the camera/battery module to receive the digital image signals and the power; and a radio frequency transmitter for transmitting the processed digital image signals to the receiving unit. When the camera/battery module is connected to the mobile telephone, images are captured by the camera/battery module and are transmitted to the receiving unit using the mobile telephone.

None of the prior art, either singularly or in combination, fails to anticipate or render the above underlined limitations obvious. Claims 2-10, 21 are dependent on claims 1, and 20 and therefore dependent claims also allowable.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to NIGAR CHOWDHURY whose telephone number is (571)272-8890. The examiner can normally be reached on 9-5.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Thai Tran can be reached on 571-272-7382. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

NC
11/05/2009

/Thai Tran/
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